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June 6, 2005

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW, Room TWB-204 Washington, DC 20554

> Re: <u>In the Matter of Regulation of Prepaid Calling Card Services</u>, WC Docket No. 05-68

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On June 3, 2005, James Cicconi, AT&T Corp. General Counsel and Executive Vice President of Law and Government Affairs, Robert Quinn, Federal Government Affairs Vice President, and I met with Chairman Kevin Martin, Michelle Carey, Legal Advisor to the Chairman, and Daniel Gonzalez, FCC Chief of Staff, to discuss issues related to AT&T's Emergency Petition for Immediate Interim Relief filed in the above-referenced proceeding. In particular, we stressed the need for swift action on this Petition affirming that USF should be assessed on prepaid card services, with an exception for those cards sold to the military, and that the Commission should revoke the Enhanced Service Provider exemption from the payment of switched access charges for all prepaid card services until the Commission ultimately determines whether the services at issue are telecommunications services or information services in the underlying rulemaking. We also urged the Commission to recognize that these services are interstate in nature such that 100% of revenues would be subject to USF assessment and interstate access charges would apply to all prepaid calls.

Alternatively, should the Commission conclude that access charges be based on the basis of the originating and terminating telephone numbers, we urged the Commission to take action to ensure the enforceability of its mandate. Specifically, we urged the Commission to require all prepaid card service providers to certify to the Commission that they have provided the underlying carrier (e.g., interexchange carriers and/or LECs) from whom they purchase services, the correct percentage of interstate versus intrastate minutes for prepaid calls. In addition, the Commission should require those providers to certify the percentage of revenues found to be

interstate and thus subject to universal service assessment. Only by requiring the prepaid card providers to supply certification will the Commission ensure compliance with its rules.

We also explained that AT&T had contemplated requesting a CPN ruling similar to the GCI request, however, we had concluded that such a ruling would not solve the fundamental problem of ensuring that prepaid card providers are properly informing interexchange carriers from whom they purchase services of the correct percentage of interstate versus intrastate calls based on originating and terminating telephone number. First, the GCI request would appear to place the onus for missing CPN on the underlying carrier (e.g., interexchange carrier or LEC), neither of whom is necessarily capable of populating the CPN/ANI data. Second, IXCs do not terminate calls to LECs on "prepaid only" trunks. Consequently, the CPN ruling could have the potential impact of subjecting more than just prepaid traffic to this ruling. For example, as we had previously identified, some domestic prepaid calls had been routed out of the country and came back into the United States on foreign carrier trunks. GCI's request could mean that an IXC would be required to pay intrastate access on all incoming calls from international trunks that have no CPN/ANI. As a result of these concerns, AT&T concluded that certification was the best path towards enforceability of the USF and access mandate. And the key principle to properly resolving this issue is to require that the certification come from prepaid card providers. That requirement would greatly reduce the incentives and opportunity to evade the Commission's ruling.

One electronic copy of this Notice is being submitted to the Secretary of the FCC in accordance with Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules.

Sincerely, Always